

## **SHORT REPORT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN NOTATION IN GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS**

by

**Thomas Schallmann**

Germany:

Christine Eckerle continued her teaching at Folkwang Hochschule in Essen-Werden, in the last year she became the dean of the dance department.

Anja Hirvikallio has been teaching for more than two years in the dance department of Music Hochschule in Köln.

Since 1996 I have been teaching Kinetography Laban at the Palucca School in Dresden. The Palucca School is the only one independent State Dance Hochschule in Germany, where you can study dance, teaching dance and choreography.

Anja Hirvikallio notated an important part of the Wigmanteknik some years ago. Now she continues the notation. The Wigman technique is developed by Gundel Eplinius, a former student of Mary Wigman, she worked about 30 years as a Professor for Modern Dance in the dance department of Music Hochschule in Hannover. Gundel Eplinius and Anja were invited to come to Dresden to give a class and a lecture demonstration. The Palucca School will use the Wigman technique and the notation.

In the last four years I worked with Betsy Fisher, professor in the dance department of University of Hawaii on two notation projects. 1996/97 we worked together with Manfred Schnelle (Dresden) on the restaging and notating of the "Five Preludes", choreographed by Marianne Vogelsang (1912-1973).

1998/99 we worked together with Waltraud Luley (Frankfurt/Main) on the restaging and notating of "Afectos Humanos", five solodances choreographed by Dore Hoyer (1911-1967).

In 1998 I got the Ellys-Gregor-award from the Mary-Wigman-society Germany in support of this project.

Austria:

The University of Salzburg and the dance archive published a book for the 100th birthday of the founder of that dance archive Frederica Derra de Moroda in 1996. As a little contribution to this publication Kaspar Mainz reconstructed the beginning of the Sarabande by Beauchamps (from the Beauchamps/Feuillet notation) and I notated that part in Kinetography Laban. In the summer semester of 1999 I taught Kinetography Laban at the Institute of music sciences of the Salzburg University.

Switzerland:

We know from the ICKL Bibliography of Labanotation scores, that Sigurd Leeder notated by himself more than 250 of his own choreographies, etudes and technical exercises. Almost all of these scores are only located in the Sigurd Leeder School of Dance in Herisau/Switzerland. Three times I visited this school and spoke and worked with Gretl Müller, the owner of the school building and this material. Nobody can use this important and, for our art, very valuable material. I could buy a few scores and I want to show you one little piece. The scores there are not safe, most of the scores there are handwritten manuscripts. I think we all have to take responsibility for this material, you should know about this material and we should speak about that situation.